

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 and 18-28 are pending. Claim 17 has been canceled and new claims 27 and 28 have been added to recite additional features of the embodiments disclosed in the specification.

Reconsideration of the application is requested for the following reasons.

In the Office Action, claims 23-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, on grounds that the specification does not disclose or enable simultaneously storing brightness control information in first and second power modes. Applicant traverses this rejection for the following reasons.

The specification provides a very clear indication of how the simultaneous storing step is performed. Claim 23 recites that the brightness control information read out from the first memory area is “simultaneously” stored in different locations of the second memory area. These features are clearly shown in Figure 5 of the drawings, where for example, brightness control information in the AC power adapter mode (101) is stored in RAM 201 at the same time. Brightness control information in the battery power mode (100) is stored at different locations in this same RAM. A redundant RAM 180 is then provided to store these same values. A corresponding description of these features is provided on pages 12-14 of the specification.

In issuing the §112, first paragraph rejection, it is apparent from pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action that the Examiner has misunderstood the subject matter recited in claim 23. In rejecting the claims, the Examiner stated: “since the device cannot be operated in different

power modes simultaneously...the specification can not enable the subject matter of claim 23.”

However, claim 23 does not recite that different power modes are operated simultaneously, but that the brightness control information for each of the first and second power modes are stored simultaneously in different locations of the second memory area. These features are clearly shown and enabled, for example, by Figure 5 of the drawings and corresponding portions of the specification. Claims 24-26 are supported for similar reasons.

In view of the foregoing explanation, it is respectfully submitted that the § 112, first paragraph, rejection is in error and should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-16 and 18-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) for being obvious over the related-art disclosures and Applicant’s specification and the newly cited Loughran publication. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw this rejection for the following reasons.

Claim 1 recites “respectively storing, in different locations of a second memory area, the brightness control information read out from the first memory area for the first and second power modes.” These features are not taught or suggested by the related-art disclosure in Applicant’s specification. The Examiner acknowledged this deficiency in the Office Action.

The Loughran publication does not make up for these deficiencies. The Loughran publication discloses the general concept of performing different power management based on whether a notebook computer is being drive by a battery or main supply current. (See Paragraph [0008]). The Examiner principally relied on this portion of Loughran to reject claim 1.

As those skilled in the art can appreciate, power management can encompass a wide variety of techniques, none of which are related to controlling the brightness level of a screen. These techniques may involve, for example, changing the operating frequency, changing an operational state (e.g., normal state to idle or suspend state), or disabling certain functions (e.g., window animations) of the computer. These latter features are discussed in Paragraphs [0060]-[0065]. Other techniques involve changing the screen. One technique, disclosed in Paragraph [0068], involves dimming the backlight of the display screen when the system is idling.

The Loughran publication, however, does not teach or suggest the specific storing step recited in claim 1, namely “respectively storing, in different locations of a second memory area, the brightness control information read out from the first memory area for the first and second power modes.” Without a teaching or suggestion of these features, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is allowable over the cited combination.

Moreover, in the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that storing brightness control information in different locations of RAM 11 for different power modes would have been inherent. Applicants respectfully disagree. While RAM 11 is *capable* of storing virtually any type of information, to satisfy the requirements of § 103(a) a cited reference must provide a specific teaching or suggestion of performing the storing step recited in the claims. See MPEP § 2143.01 et seq. The Loughran publication does not provide a teaching or suggestion of this step.

Claim 10 recites features similar to those which patentably distinguish claim 1 from the cited references. For example, claim 10 recites respectively storing, in different locations of a

second storage area, brightness level information read out from the first storage area for a first power supply and brightness level information read out from the first storage area for a second power supply. These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Claim 10 further recites “updating the second storage area to independently store the index information according to the determined type of power supply.” These features are also not taught or suggested by the cited references.

Claim 16 recites “respectively storing, in different locations of a second storage area, index information read out from the first storage area from one of the brightness levels in a first power mode and index information read out from the first storage area from one of the brightness levels in the second power mode.” These features are not taught or suggested by the cited references. Claim 20 recites similar features and is allowable for similar reasons.

Claims 23-26 recite the additional feature of simultaneously storing the brightness control information in the first and second power modes. These features are also not taught or suggested by the cited references.

New claims 27 and 28 have been added. Each of these claims recite features that are not taught or suggested by the related-art systems and the Loughran publication, whether taken alone or in combination.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and timely allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

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Amdt. dated April 27, 2007
Reply to Office Action of February 7, 2007

Docket No. HI-0182

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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